

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS18479

This legislation seeks to permit in-state private kindergarten providers the same rights as out-of-state kindergarten providers. Currently a student who does not reach the age of five prior to September 1st, but attends an out-of-state kindergarten, is permitted to continue to first grade. If the same student were to attend an in-state private kindergarten, the student would be required to repeat kindergarten at the expense of taxpayers. If this legislation is adopted, the student who attends an in-state private kindergarten would be given a first-grade entrance exam approved by the State Department of Education. The successful passage of the exam would permit the student to continue on to first grade as those that had attended kindergarten out-of-state.

FISCAL NOTE

A small positive fiscal note is expected as some students would not attend public in-state kindergarten.

Contact:

Name: Representative Donna L. Pence

Office:

Phone: (208) 332-1000

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